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-- 14. A carousel, comprising:
a drive track;
a plurality of bins arranged into rows, said bins being driven by said drive track;
a drive mechanism for driving said drive track;
a sensor for sensing the position of said rows of bins; and
a computer responsive to said sensor and data representative of a plurality of picks for more than one order for controlling said drive mechanism.

15. The carousel of claim 14 wherein said computer is responsive to data representative of picks for more than one patient.

16. The carousel of claim 14 wherein said computer is responsive to data representative of picks for more than one dispensing device.

17. ~~The carousel of claim 14 additionally comprising a plurality of indicia responsive to said computer, said indicia located adjacent each row as each row is brought into a pick position.~~

~~18. The carousel of claim 17 wherein said indicia identifies a quantity to be picked.~~

19. A system, comprising:
a carousel comprising a drive track; a plurality of bins arranged into rows, said bins being driven by said drive track; a drive mechanism for driving said drive track; a sensor for sensing the position of said rows of bins; and a computer responsive to said sensor and data representative of a plurality of picks for controlling said drive mechanism, and
a plurality of storage locations each having an indicator, said processor controlling said storage location indicators.

20. The system of claim 19 additionally comprising a restocking package designed to be one of inserted into and connected to a dispensing device.

21. The system of claim 19 wherein said computer is responsive to data representative of picks for more than one order.

22. ~~The system of claim 21 wherein said carousel additionally comprises a plurality of indicia responsive to said computer, said indicia located adjacent each row as each row is brought into a pick position.~~

23. The system of claim 22 wherein said indicia identifies a quantity to be picked and said storage location indicators identify an order to which the pick belongs.

24. A system, comprising:

a carousel comprising a drive track; a plurality of bins arranged into rows, said bins being driven by said drive track; a drive mechanism for driving said drive track; a sensor for sensing the position of said rows of bins; and a computer responsive to said sensor and data representative of a plurality of picks for controlling said drive mechanism;

a printer responsive to said computer; and

a hand-held device for communicating to said computer when a pick is completed and for displaying another pick.

25. The system of claim 24 wherein said computer is responsive to data representative of picks for more than one order.

26. The system of claim 24 additionally comprising a restocking package designed to be one or inserted into and connected to a dispensing device.

27. The system of claim 24 wherein said carousel additionally comprises a plurality of indicia responsive to said computer, said indicia located adjacent each row as each row is brought into a pick position.

28. The system of claim 27 wherein said indicia identifies a quantity to be picked.

29. A system, comprising:

AH a carousel comprising a drive track; a plurality of bins being driven by said drive track; a drive mechanism for driving said drive track; a sensor for sensing the position of said rows of bins; and a computer responsive to said sensor and data representative of a plurality of picks for controlling said drive mechanism; and

a restocking package configured to be one of attached to and inserted into a dispensing device.

30. The system of claim 29 wherein said computer is responsive to data representative of picks for more than one order.

31. The system of claim 29 wherein said carousel additionally comprises a plurality of indicia responsive to said computer, said indicia located adjacent each row as each row is brought into a pick position.

32. The system of claim 31 wherein said indicia identifies a quantity to be picked.

33. A carousel comprising:

first and second drive tracks;

a plurality of bins arranged into first and second pluralities of rows, said first plurality of rows being driven by said first drive track, said second plurality of rows being driven by said second drive track;

first and second drive mechanisms for driving said first and second drive tracks, respectively;

sensors for sensing the position of said first and second pluralities of rows of bins; and a computer responsive to said sensors and data representative of a pick from said first plurality of rows and said second plurality of rows for controlling said first and second drive mechanisms, respectively.

34. The carousel of claim 33 wherein said first drive track, first plurality of rows, and first drive mechanism forms a first column, and wherein said second drive track, second plurality of rows, and second drive mechanism forms a second column, and wherein one of said first and second columns is designed to handle heavier items than the other.

35. The carousel of claim 33 wherein said first drive track, first plurality of rows, and first drive mechanism forms a first column, and wherein said second drive track, second plurality of rows, and second drive mechanism forms a second column, and wherein one of said first and second columns is designed to drive its plurality of rows faster than the other.

36. The carousel of claim 33 wherein said computer is responsive to data representative of picks for more than one order.

37. The carousel of claim 33 additionally comprising a plurality of indicia responsive to said computer, said indicia located adjacent each row as each row is brought into a pick position.

38. The carousel of claim 37 wherein said indicia identifies a quantity to be picked.

39. A system comprising:

a carousel comprising first and second drive tracks; a plurality of bins arranged into first and second pluralities of rows, said first plurality of rows being driven by said first drive track, said second plurality of rows being driven by said second drive track; first and second drive mechanisms for driving said first and second drive tracks, respectively; sensors for sensing the position of said first and second pluralities of rows of bins; and a computer responsive to said sensors and data representative of a pick from said first plurality of rows and said second plurality of rows for controlling said first and drive mechanisms, respectively; and

a plurality of storage locations each having an indicator, said computer controlling said storage location indicators.

40. The system of claim 39 wherein said first drive track, first plurality of rows, and first drive mechanism forms a first column, and wherein said second drive track, second plurality of rows, and second drive mechanism forms a second column, and wherein one of said first and second columns is designed to handle heavier items than the other.

41. The system of claim 39 wherein said first drive track, first plurality of rows, and first drive mechanism forms a first column, and wherein said second drive track, second plurality of rows, and second drive mechanism forms a second column, and wherein one of said first and second columns is designed to drive its plurality of rows faster than the other.

42. The system of claim 39 additionally comprising a restocking package designed to be one of inserted into and connected to a dispensing device.

43. The system of claim 39 wherein said processor is responsive to data representative of picks for more than one order.

44. The system of claim 39 wherein said carousel additionally comprises a plurality of indicia responsive to said computer, said indicia located adjacent each row as each row is brought into a pick position.

45. The system of claim 44 wherein said indicia identifies a quantity to be picked and wherein said storage location indicators identify an order to which the pick belongs.

46. A system, comprising:
a carousel comprising first and second drive tracks; a plurality of bins arranged into first and second pluralities of rows, said first plurality of rows being driven by said first drive track, said second plurality of rows being driven by said second drive track; first and second drive mechanisms for driving said first and second drive tracks, respectively; sensors for sensing the position of said first and second pluralities of rows of bins; and a computer responsive to said sensors and data representative of a pick from said first plurality of rows and said second plurality of rows for controlling said first and second drive mechanisms;
a printer responsive to said computer; and
a hand-held device for communicating to said computer when a pick is completed and for displaying another pick.

47. The system of claim 46 wherein said first drive track, first plurality of rows, and first drive mechanism forms a first column, and wherein said second drive track, second plurality of rows, and second drive mechanism forms a second column, and wherein one of said first and second columns is designed to handle heavier items than the other.

48. The system of claim 46 wherein said first drive track, first plurality of rows, and first drive mechanism forms a first column, and wherein said second drive track, second plurality of rows, and second drive mechanism forms a second column, and wherein one of said first and second columns is designed to drive its plurality of rows faster than the other.

49. The system of claim 46 wherein said computer is responsive to data representative of picks for more than one order.

50. The system of claim 46 additionally comprising a restocking package designed to be one of inserted into and connected to a dispensing device.

51. The system of claim 46 wherein said carousel additionally comprises a plurality of indicia responsive to said computer, said indicia located adjacent each row as each row is brought into a pick position.

52. The system of claim 51 wherein said indicia identifies a quantity to be picked.

53. A system, comprising:

A4 a carousel comprising first and second drive tracks; a plurality of bins arranged into first and second pluralities of rows, said first plurality of rows being driven by said first drive track, said second plurality of rows being driven by said second drive track; first and second drive mechanism for driving said first and second drive tracks, respectively; sensors for sensing the position of said first and second pluralities of rows of bins; and a computer responsive to said sensors and data representative of a pick from said first plurality of rows and said second plurality of rows for controlling said first and second drive mechanisms; and

a restocking package configured to be one of attached to and inserted into a dispensing device.

54. The system of claim 53 wherein said first drive track, first plurality of rows, and first drive mechanism forms a first column, and wherein said second drive track, second plurality of rows, and second drive mechanism forms a second column, and wherein one of said first and second columns is designed to handle heavier items than the other.

55. The system of claim 53 wherein said first drive track, first plurality of rows, and first drive mechanism forms a first column, and wherein said second drive track, second plurality of rows, and second drive mechanism forms a second column, and wherein one of said first and second columns is designed to drive its plurality of rows faster than the other.

56. The system of claim 53 wherein said computer is responsive to data representative of picks for more than one order.

57. The system of claim 53 wherein said carousel additionally comprises a plurality of indicia responsive to said computer, said indicia located adjacent each row as each row is brought into a pick position.

58. The system of claim 57 wherein said indicia identifies a quantity to be picked.

59. A system, comprising:
a plurality of open shelves containing bins for carrying items, said items having indicia associated therewith;

a handheld device programmed to:
read the indicia associated with an item for which a restock is desired;
receive quantity information associated with the read indicia; and
transfer the information associated with the read indicia and the quantity information to enable a restocking package to be prepared.

60. The system of claim 59 additionally comprising a cradle for receiving said handheld device, and wherein said transferring step includes the step of downloading to a central database when the handheld device is stored in said cradle.

61. The system of claim 59 wherein said indicia associated with an item includes one of indicia associated with a bin, indicia on a package containing the item, and indicia on the item.

62. The system of claim 61 wherein said indicia includes a barcode.

63. A closed loop restocking system, comprising:
dispensing hardware located at a decentralized location, said hardware producing data representative of dispensing operations;

a carousel located at a centralized location and responsive to said data;
a restocking package for carrying items selected from said carousel in response to said data, said restocking package carrying indicia.

64. The system of claim 63 additionally comprising a bar code scanner, and wherein said indicia includes a bar code, said bar code being scanned to verify that said items selected from said carousel are loaded into the dispensing hardware.

65. The system of claim 64 additionally comprising a printer at said centralized location for printing said bar code.

66. The system of claim 65 wherein said bar code indicates a dispensing hardware and a drawer within said dispensing hardware.

67. The system of claim 63 wherein said carousel is comprised of a drive track; a plurality of bins being driven by said drive track; a drive mechanism for driving said drive track; and a sensor for sensing the position of said rows of bins, said system comprising a computer responsive to said sensor and data representative of a plurality of picks for controlling said drive mechanism.

68. The system of claim 67 additionally comprising at said centralized location:
a printer responsive to said computer; and
a hand-held device for communicating to said computer when a pick is completed and for displaying another pick.

69. The system of claim 63 wherein said carousel comprises first and second drive tracks; a plurality of bins arranged into first and second pluralities of rows, said first plurality of rows being driven by said first drive track, said second plurality of rows being driven by said second drive track; first and second drive mechanisms for driving said first and second drive tracks, respectively; and sensors for sensing the position of said first and second pluralities of rows of bins, said system comprising a computer responsive to said sensors and data representative of a pick from said first plurality of rows and said second plurality of rows for controlling said first and second drive mechanism.

70. The system of claim 69 additionally comprising at said centralized location:
a printer responsive to said computer; and
a hand-held device for communicating to said computer when a pick is completed and for displaying another pick.

71. A method comprising:
filling a restocking package with items held in a carousel in a centralized storage location by processing picks for more than one order;

delivering the restocking package to a decentralized storage location; and
restocking a dispensing device at said decentralized storage location with the restocking package.

72. A method, comprising:
filling a restocking package with items in a centralized storage location;
delivering the restocking package to a decentralized location; and
one of inserting the restocking package into a dispensing device and connecting a device carrying a plurality of restocking packages to the dispensing device.

73. A method comprising:
filling a restocking package with items identified by a carousel in a centralized storage location by evaluating a queue containing picks for more than one order;
delivering the restocking package to a decentralized storage location; and
restocking a dispensing device at said decentralized storage location with the restocking package.

74. A method of operating multiple carousels or a carousel having more than one operable column, comprising:
selecting a pick having the highest priority;
moving the bins of the carousel until the bin having the item corresponding to the selected pick is in a pick position;
examining the queue and if the next item is located a carousel not having a bin in a pick position, moving the bins of the carousel not having a bin in a pick position.

75. A method comprising:
inputting information into a handheld device from indicia on an open shelving system;
inputting a quantity to the handheld device corresponding to the input information;
transferring the information and quantity from the handheld device; and
queuing the information and quantity in a restocking device.

76. The method of claim 75 wherein the indicia is a barcode and the inputting is performed by scanning the barcode.

77. A method comprising:
displaying a pick to be performed at a workstation;